Check on contract labour

2585. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government despite their promises from time to time to keep a check on hiring contract workers, are increasing their staff strength over the period;

(b) if so, the details thereof and justification therefor;

(c) whether any efficiency is increasing by increased staff strength; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) The Government enacted the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 with a view to have a check on hiring of contract labour and prevent their exploitation. It provides for prohibition of employment of contract labour, in circumstances like the work being of perennial nature etc. Several notifications have been issued prohibiting employment of contract labour in various establishments including Government departments. So long prohibition in engaging contract labour has not been ordered, there is no bar in hiring the contract labour.

(c) and (d) The employers often resort to contract labour system for reasons like uncertainity of work, flexibility in manpower deployment, concentration on core competencies etc. which, in their view, leads to cost effectiveness, and increase in efficiency and productivity.

Setting up of Employment Commission

2586. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration with Government to set up an Employment Commission in the country to generate employment avenues;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the existing mechanism to create employment avenues is not adequate; and